

CLAIMS

claim I claim:

1. Sebocytes which are immortalized and derived from humans.
2. Sebocytes according to claim 1, characterized in that they are derived from human sebaceous gland.
3. Sebocytes according to claim 2, characterized in that the sebaceous gland cells are facial sebaceous gland cells.
4. Sebocytes according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that they are present in form of a cell line.
5. Sebocytes according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that they are immortalized by transfection of DNA.
6. Sebocytes according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that they express the SV-40 large T antigen.
7. Sebocytes according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that they exhibit features of normal, non-transfected and differentiating sebocytes.
8. Sebocytes according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that their proliferation is modifiable by androgens and/or retinoids.
9. Sebocytes according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that they are cloned.
10. Human sebocyte cell line DSM ACC2383.
11. Use of the sebocytes according to any of the claims 1 to 9, or the human sebocyte cell line according to claim 10 for diagnostic, therapeutic or cosmetic preparations.

12. Use of the sebocytes according to any of the claims 1 to 9 or the human sebocyte cell line according to claim 10 for the examination of the physiology or the pathophysiology of human or animal sebaceous gland.

13. Use of the sebocytes according to any of the claims 1 to 9 or the human sebocyte cell line according to claim 10 for the examination of the origin of acne and/or seborrhoe and/or other diseases.

14. Use of the sebocytes according to claim 13, wherein the other diseases to be examined are dermal diseases in which the sebaceous gland function is involved or may be involved.

15. Use of the sebocytes according to any of the claims 1 to 9 or the human sebocyte cell line according to claim 10 for the testing of anti-acne and/or anti-seborrhoe compounds or agents.

16. Use of the sebocytes according to any of claims 1 to 9 or the human sebocyte cell line according to claim 10 for the testing of compounds or agents against diseases.

17. Use of the sebocytes according to claim 16, wherein the diseases are dermal diseases in which the sebaceous gland function is involved or may be involved.

18. Use of the sebocytes according to any of claims 1 to 9 or the human sebocyte cell line according to claim 10, for the development of simple or complex cell culture systems.

19. Use of the sebocytes according to any of claims 1 to 9 or the human sebocyte cell line according to claim 10 for the formation of or for the use in three-dimensional cell aggregations or constructions of organ-type structures.

20. Use of the sebocytes according to any of claims 1 to 9 or the human sebocyte cell line according to claim 10 for the preparation of products derived from said cells.
21. Use according to claim 20, wherein the cell products are lipids, plasmids, vectors, proteins which are expressed by said cells and/or DNA or RNA sequences of said proteins.
22. Use of the products obtained according to claim 20 or 21 for the modification of other cells or the modification of organisms.